

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application and all claims are rejected.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Justel et al. According to the Examiner, Justel et al discloses a vacuum ultraviolet radiation excited light-emitting device with a discharge space filled with a rare gas between a front faceplate and a rear faceplate, a fluorescent material layer provided on the front faceplate having a thickness of no more than about 7 μm . The Examiner further asserts that Justel also discloses the elements of claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Justel et al in view of Seibold et al. Justel is applied as above. The Examiner relies on Seibold for the disclosure of a fluorescent material layer on the rear plate having a thickness of not less than 30 μm in order to obtain optimum conversion of UV light to visible light. It is the Examiner's position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the display of Justel with the fluorescent material layer on the rear plate having a thickness of not less than 30 μm for the same reason, i.e., to obtain optimum conversion of UV light to visible light.

Applicants claim priority to JP 2000-272864, filed on September 8, 2000, which antedates the effective date of February 28, 2001, of Justel. The subject matter of the present claims is described in the priority document. A sworn English translation of the priority document is filed herewith in compliance with 37 CFR 1.55.

In view of the above, Justel is disqualified as a reference against the present application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 09/935,577

Attorney Docket No.: Q65912

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

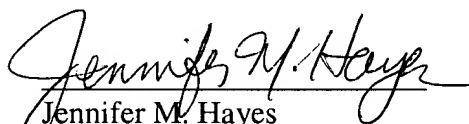
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